ARCE Command — Version 4.0g
April 13, 1991

Purpose: Use ARCE to extract files from an ARC archive file.

Format: The program name may be either ARCE or ARC-E.

```
ARCE  [d:][path]filename.ext  [filespecs...] [d:outpath]
                          [/R]
                          [/Q]
                          [/P]
                          [/T]
                          [/5]
                          [/Gpassword]
```

Remarks:

The drive and path names are optional. If omitted, the current drive and path name is used.

The filename must be supplied. The extension defaults to ARC. All files matching the supplied filename are processed. The ARC filename may contain the * and ? wildcard characters.

If no filespecs are supplied, all files are extracted. Otherwise, only those ARC members which match one of the up to 16 filespecs are extracted.

The extracted files may be placed on another drive, and/or in another subdirectory by following the optional filespecs with a drive designator and/or path name.

If the file being extracted already exists, you are asked whether or not you want to over-write it. You may use the | /R option to bypass this prompt. Use a Y followed by the | return key to over-write the file.

Use the /Q option to suppress alarm sounds, beeps, and bells.

Use the /P option to write the extracted files to the DOS standard output file. With /P, you may pipe or redirect the output. An initial line feed is added to the beginning of the output file.

Use the /T option to test the archive's integrity. No files will be extracted.

If the file was encrypted, use the /G option to supply the same password as was used to create the file, e.g. /GSECRET.

Use the /5 option to stop ARCE from creating the subdirectories for files created with the ARC /Z subdirectory option.

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- Extract all file from TEST.ARC onto the current drive:

  ```
  ARCE TEST
  ```

- Extract only file with an extension of .ASM from the archive SOURCE.ARC on drive B and in subdirectory SAVE:

  ```
  ARCE B:\SAVE\SOURCE *.ASM
  ```

- Extract all files from all ARC files in the subdirectory called TEST on drive C:

  ```
  ARCE C:\TEST\*
  ```

- Extract all files from PROGA.ARC and place the files in subdirectory OLD on drive B:

  ```
  ARCE PROGA.ARC B:\OLD
  ```

- Extract all files with an extension of .COM and .EXE from the archive PROGS.ARC in directory NEW\WORK on drive B, and place the them in subdirectory SAVE\TEST on drive A; replace existing file:

  ```
  ARCE B:\NEW\WORK\PROGS *.COM *.EXE A:\SAVE\TEST /R
  ```

- Extract the file READ.ME from the archive GIZMO.ARC and display it on the console instead of writing it to a file:

  ```
  ARCE GIZMO READ.ME /P
  ```

- Same as above, except pass the extracted READ.ME file to the LIST file viewer:

  ```
  ARCE GIZMO READ.ME /P | LIST /S
  ```

## Error Messages

'filename - premature EOF reading '

Data is missing from the archive file. The program is terminated.

'filename - unable to set file datestamp'

The file datestamp is set to the current date and time, and the next archive member is processed.

'filename - WARNING: file CRC does not match!'

The extracted member is left on the output disk, and the next archive member is processed. The file is probably invalid but is left on the disk for your examination.

'Invalid filespec(s)'

The filespec syntax is incorrect. The filename part may be from 1 to eight characters, and may include the ? or * wildcard characters. The extension may be none to three characters, and may include wildcards. There is a maximum of 16 filespecs allowed. The program terminates.

'filename - file already exists. Overwrite it? (y/N) '

The member being extracted already exists. If you are using a data path utility, the file may not actually be in the subdirectory be used for output. Respond with the letter Y to over-write the existing file, or respond with the letter N to skip this member and continue to the next.

'Abort: Stack overflow'

The member being extracted has invalid data. The program is terminated.

'filename - invalid decode tree count'

The member being extracted has invalid data. The program is terminated.

## Error Messages (cont'd)

'filename - new archive format 7 not yet supported'

Format 7 is a special file compression method used internally by SEA, the authors of ARC. Processing continues with the next archive member.

'Unable to open archive > arcname'

The specified ARC archive file was not found, or was inaccessible. The program terminates.

'CREATE failed > filename'

There was insufficient directory space, or a failure accessing the output disk. The program terminates.

'Invalid archive format!'

The archive file data is invalid. The program terminates.

'Incorrect DOS version'

Version 2.0 or later of PC DOS must be used. The program terminates

'Not enough memory.'

A minimum of 112k bytes of memory is required. The program terminates.

'I/O error reading from arcname'

An incorrectable error occurred attempting to read data from the archive file. The program terminates.

'I/O error writing or disk full > filename'

There was not enough disk space to write the complete archive member. The partially extracted file is scratched and the program terminates.

## Error Messages (cont'd)

'No matching file(s) found'

No archive files were found that matched the supplied filename specifications. The program terminates.

'filename - ERROR: invalid file codes'

An error was detected while attempting to decode a crunched file. Either some data bytes are invalid, there are extra bytes, or there are bytes missing. The archive is invalid.

Version 4.0g
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## Version history

1.1 - 1/13/86 -initial release

2.00, 04/08/86 - fine tuning of I/O buffering

2.01-2.05, 4-20 thru 9/9/86
- improve unsq, correct disk full message
2.06, 9/17/86 - release from testing
2.07, from 9/19 - not released
2.08, 12/31/86 - added /P, /Q; fixed /R with redirection
2.09, 1/5/87 - correct closing of output if /P used; require return (enter key) for over-write prompt
- add more validity checking of member headers
2.10, 1/6/87 - correct use out output file specification
2.11, 1/24/87 - some cosmetics, wrong banner version and date

3.0a, 3/16/87 - added /G for password encryption
- added /T for integrity checking only
- correct loop in command line parsing
- internal optimization
- make integrity checking more robust
3.0c, 3/23/87 - improve extracting with file selection
- minor fixes and cosmetic changes
3.0d, 3/29/87 - correction to unsqueeze
3.0e, 4/02/87 - correct loop with invalid archives
- insure errorlevel non-zero if any errors
- correct loop in command line processing
3.0f, 5/31/87 - correct false 'disk full' error message when using /p (piping) option
- correct failure to extract all files from a garbled (/g) archive

3.1a, 9/10/87 - cosmetic changes
3.1b, 9/16/87 - unsquashing version released
3.1c, 2/06/88 - lessen memory requirement to 50k

4.0a, 2/06/89 - add subdirectory support via /Z option
4.0b, 2/28/89 - change meaning of /Z to /5;
correct name used for /Z output directories
4.0c, 3/03/89 - correct mkdir error without /5
4.0e, 3/17/89 - performance improvements
4.0f, 5/15/90 - performance improvements
| 4.0g, 4/13/91 - add handling of ARC v7 information records

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